

Note on the Occurrence of *Lyctus Villosus* Lesne in the  
Hawaiian Islands (Coleoptera, Lyctidae).

BY HUGH SCOTT, M. A., SC. D., F. E. S.,  
Museum of Zoology, Cambridge, England.

In "Fauna Hawaiensis," Vol. III, Part 6, p. 644 (1910), the present writer recorded two species of *Lyctus* from the Hawaiian Islands. One was the very widespread *Lyctus brunneas* (Stephens); the other was a species then undetermined, two specimens of which were obtained by Dr. R. C. L. Perkins at Honolulu, XI. 1900. The latter species was entered as "*Lyctus* sp. ?," and one of the two specimens was eventually placed in the British Museum. In March, 1924, the writer went to Paris to work for some days in the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle. At the request of Monsieur P. Lesne, the unidentified *Lyctus* was borrowed from the British Museum and taken to Paris, where it was duly examined by Monsieur Lesne, who pronounced it to be *L. villosus*, a species described by himself (Bull. Mus. Paris, XVII, 1911, p. 537) from Mexico, and recorded (*l. c.*) as having been bred in numbers from a piece of the wood of "guaje," *Leucaena esculenta* Benth. (Leguminosae, Mimosoideae). The borrowed example of the insect has been returned to the British Museum, and the second Hawaiian specimen, which originally accompanied it, should be in the Bishop Museum at Honolulu.\* It is thus established that *L. villosus* has occurred in the Islands.

Monsieur Lesne writes (in a letter, XI. 1924) that he has no additional records of this species, which is very rare in collections, and that it would be of interest to know if the insect is acclimatized in the archipelago. The following extract from a letter written by Dr. Perkins, 8. XI. 1924, gives details of how the specimens were taken: "I have no doubt that the *Lyctus* which you are writing about was caught in Honolulu itself, as I did a good deal of collecting in the winter of 1900 in that place when the weather was too bad for the mountains. I col-

Proc. Haw. Ent. Soc., VI, No. 1, August, 1925.

\* This specimen at the Bishop Museum has now been labelled *Lyctus villosus* Lesne, as above. [Ed.]

lected a lot of foreign beetles at that time under the bark of dead and dying trees in the town on empty lots. There were many such trees, as in an epidemic of plague some time previously part of the town was burnt out, and the loose bark on the burnt or partly burnt trees, which were still standing, harbored great quantities of introduced beetles and other insects. Most of these trees were leguminous, some belonging to the Mimosoideae and some not; I think I might say almost all were introduced Leguminosae."